The School Board Corner

By Patricia Healy, Rockhill District





Spring is around the corner and hopefully we have seen the last "snow day" for the year. After a flurry of winter storms, we used more than our allotted snow days this school year. We are all looking forward to Spring and the beautiful weather Spring brings.

March is high season for the School Board with respect to the budget. By the time this letter reaches you, we will have held several informational briefings for the public, a public hearing, and had a number of work sessions on the proposed 2003-2004 budget. We are continuing to meet with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the needs of Stafford County Public Schools and our priorities. Unfortunately, the State contribution to our funding is limited, placing a higher burden on our local government.

The School Board is moving forward with requesting proposals for Public Private Partnerships with respect to the construction of two elementary schools and a high school. We anticipate a good response to the request for proposals. It is exciting to be able to explore the new opportunity available to us through the Public Private Partnership Act (PPEA) for meeting the needs of our schools.

It was with much sadness that the School Board accepted the resignation of David Kerr, our Aquia District representative. Mr. Kerr served for over five years on the Board, during which time he devoted countless hours to our schools. We understand the time demands of Mr. Kerr's new position with the Federal government would not allow him to continue to devote the substantial time required as a member of the School Board. Mr. Kerr will be greatly missed. In February, the School Board advertised the vacancy, asking interested persons residing in the Aquia District to apply. The position should be filled by early March.

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